

BIENNIAL REPORT  
IOWA SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND  
VINTON, IOWA  
1946-1948



BIENNIAL REPORT -- 1946-1948

ENROLLMENT STATISTICS

Leslie M. Hays, Superintendent

	Year <u>1946-1947</u>		Year <u>1947-1948</u>	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Students enrolled under seven years of age	11	5	9	2
Students enrolled over seven and under sixteen years of age	53	48	56	49
Students enrolled over sixteen years of age	22	18	18	13
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	86	71	83	64
Total Enrollments .....	157	147		

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Number Graduated	9	7
Number died during the year	none	none
Number students totally blind	30	34
Number students greatly handicapped	<u>127</u>	<u>113</u>
	157	147
Number of days school convened	174	175



## STUDENT ENROLLMENT BY COUNTIES

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>Year 1946-1947</u>	<u>Year 1947-1948</u>
Adams	1	
Appanoose	2	1
Benton	11	18
Blackhawk	16	11
Boone	3	5
Buchanan	1	
Butler	1	1
Carroll	1	
Cass	3	3
Cedar	2	2
Cerro Gordo	5	5
Cherokee	1	1
Chickasaw	1	1
Clinton	2	1
Crawford	1	1
Dallas	1	1
Decatur	2	2
Delaware	1	1
Des Moines	4	1
Dubuque	3	4
Emmett	3	2
Fayette	1	2
Floyd	1	
Franklin	1	1
Fremont	2	2
Grundy	1	
Hancock	1	1
Hardin	1	1
Harrison	1	1
Henry	1	1
Howard	4	4
Humboldt	1	1
Ida	1	1
Iowa	1	1
Jackson	1	1
Jefferson		1
Johnson	3	2
Lee		1
Linn	8	8
Mahaska	2	2
Marion	1	1
Marshall		
Mitchell	1	1
Monroe		1
Muscatine	7	1
Page	1	
Palo Alto	1	1
Pocahontas	1	
Polk	5	8
Pottawattamie	4	4



## STUDENT ENROLLMENT BY COUNTIES

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>Year</u> <u>1946-1947</u>	<u>Year</u> <u>1947-1948</u>
Sac	2	2
Scott	3	2
Shelby	1	
Sioux	2	2
Story	3	2
Tama	2	2
Union	2	3
Van Buren	1	1
Wapello	1	1
Washington	1	1
Warren		1
Wayne	5	5
Webster	4	4
Winnebago	2	2
Woodbury	10	9
Wright	1	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	157	147



NUMBER AND CLASSIFICATION OF EMPLOYEES

1946-1947

1947-1948

	<u>Part Time</u>	<u>Full Time</u>	<u>Part Time</u>	<u>Full Time</u>
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Superintendent		1		1
Secretary-Treasurer		1		1
Secretary to Superintendent		1		1
Teachers	3	24	3	24
Matrons and Supervisors	2	9	2	9
Night Matron — Palmer Hall		1		1
Nurse		1		1
Hospital Maid		1		1
Dentist	1		1	
Physician	1		1	
Housekeepers		2		2
Dining Room Maids		4		4
Kitchen, Bake Shop and Pasteurizer		5		5
Custodians and Hall Maids	3	5	3	5
Laundry Employees	1	4	1	4
Grounds & Buildings		4		4
Heating Plant	1	5	1	5
Returned Veterans		4		3
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	12	72	12	71

Inventory, June 30, 1947

Real Estate	55.5	\$ 21,456.85
Buildings and Structures		666,657.58
Other Property Including Furniture, Machinery and Other Equipment		<u>278,499.40</u>
		\$966,613.83



The Iowa School for the Blind is an educational institution which offers complete educational opportunity to the visually handicapped boys and girls from kindergarten through high school. In many respects the subjects follow the same lines of those found in the schools for the sighted. In addition to academic subjects, special emphasis is placed on music, industrial arts, and physical education. After satisfactorily completing the four year high school course, students are equipped to enter college and those who do so attain records that compare favorably with those of the sighted students.

In 1943 the Fiftieth General Assembly appropriated funds to establish a sight saving program to take care of the needs of children throughout the state whose vision is too great to use Braille, but not sufficient to make satisfactory progress in the public schools where ordinary print is used. The sight saving rooms are equipped with special lighting, green chalk boards, sight saving desks and large type books. Teachers with special training in sight saving methods conduct the classes.

#### ACADEMIC COURSES

In addition to the academic subjects, the effort in this school is to provide the students with a wholesome philosophy of life; to help them accept blindness more as an inconvenience rather than a handicap. The real handicap might lie in the lack of innate ability; the lack of health, initiative, application, resourcefulness;--and not one of those does sight give, nor the loss of or lack of sight take away. Losing one's sight may become a challenge hitherto unsuspected. When one avenue to achievement is cut off, even the main highway perhaps, no reason exists why an individual must drop out of the march of advance. Any destination can be reached by detours if one is willing to put in a few longer hours and endure a little rougher going. Visually picturing, mentally seeing through friendly eyes, are some of the detours.

#### PRIMARY

The primary department stresses fluent reading and rapid thought, also expression through practical experiences in the world about the child. The school emphasizes Braille reading which is the keynote of the book thoughts for the blind pupil. There are three grades of Braille; Grade I is given in the kindergarten and first grade, Grade  $1\frac{1}{2}$  is taught in the second grade, Grade 2 is presented in the sixth grade. This advanced Braille consists of many contractions which add speed to reading and writing. The primary child learns the geography of his home, his school and the work of his friends and society with their physical, social and geographical relationships to him. As he progresses in his primary work, he is taught to do the work with his hands, mind and body as his friends about him do in general successions of experiences. He learns through dramatization, stories, music, healthful rhythmic games and plays, numbers and nature study.



## INTERMEDIATE

Practically the same courses are offered in the intermediate and junior high grades as in public schools with the exception of drawing. Through the use of "My Weekly Reader" and "Current Events" the school is cooperating with the reading program set up in the American Educational Press. Geography and history are taught in units and in both history and language much dramatization is done. The arithmetic course varies from that found in the public school in that mental arithmetic is stressed to a greater degree. This helps to develop the powers of concentration and speeds up the process of learning. The talking book -- a portable victrola with records of books, stories and plays instead of records of music -- and the Braille writer are two important aids. In the lower grades, tests and written work are done mostly in Braille, but the typewriter is used in the higher grades.

## HIGH SCHOOL

The high school continues on the foundation established by the grades. Here the student receives instruction in most of the courses offered in a college preparatory curriculum. Magazines such as "The Reader's Digest", "The Searchlight" and "The Weekly News" are published in Braille and keep the student informed on current affairs. The radio bringing the "School of the Air" is used in some classrooms. The Braille library of several thousand volumes supplies the students with reading of novels, drama, essays, history, biography and science.

In commercial subjects besides typewriting, which he studies in the grades, a student learns to use the Braille writer and the stenotype or shorthand machine.

In high school, the student participates in plays, creative writing and contests with public schools.

## MUSIC

Six full time music teachers are employed. Subjects taught are voice, organ, piano, violin and other instruments of the orchestra! Also harmony, musical form and history of music are offered. The pupils do not learn their music "by ear" as some people erroneously think, but they memorize it from music printed according to the Braille system. Christmas and Easter vesper services are given by the I.S.B. choir, and the same organization furnishes the Baccalaureate Sunday music. The school orchestra presents one or more concerts each year. In state high school music contests both the choir and orchestra have received highest ratings.



## HOME AND INDUSTRIAL ARTS

The industrial department of the school gives training in chair caning, mat and brush making, basketry, plain and art weaving and leather work. A four year course in piano tuning and repairing enables the student to take his place in a factory with sighted workers. Manual training students do repair work and make some new articles which gives the boys the fundamentals of handling tools.

Home arts consist of sewing, cooking and home making. All of these subjects are planned to prepare the student to meet the needs of the home.

## THE HEALTH PROGRAM

Every student enrolled in the Iowa School for the Blind participates in and benefits from an extensive health education program which has for its objective the development and maintenance of "a sound mind and a sound body". Under the direction of well trained teachers, the physical education department carries on a program of interscholastic and intermural sports. The wrestling and cross-country teams compete with boys of other schools in Iowa, while the boys' and girls' track teams enter national telegraphic meets and two dual meets each spring. Kickball, ground baseball and touch football are sports included in the intermural schedule. Supervised swimming in the pool and roller skating on the large outside cement oval are favorite pastimes with the students. Winter sports include ice skating and sliding down slides constructed on the campus.

Special attention is given in gymnasium classes to those students requiring remedial and corrective exercises. Much emphasis is placed on correct posture, standing, walking and sitting habits. The good health of students is further guaranteed by the school through its maintenance of a completely equipped hospital which has a sixteen bed capacity.

The Hospital includes: A registered nurse, who is in constant attendance at the school, administering treatments for the eye or other physical ailments, caring for all ill students or attending to other hospital duties.

A regularly employed physician who makes daily calls at the school to examine students who are sick or indisposed, to perform the usual medical services, to give advice with reference to the need of a specialist's services, to recommend helpful treatments, or to vaccinate for prevention of disease.

A dentist is employed who gives two forenoons each week to the task of caring for the teeth of the students and looking after their dental needs. A complete dental office is maintained in connection with the hospital.



## IOWA UNIVERSITY MEDICAL SCHOOL AND HOSPITAL SERVICE

A. Children entering school for the first time are taken to the University Hospital for a complete examination and check-up.

B. All cases needing surgical treatment are referred to the University Hospital for attention.

C. Refractions for the purpose of fitting glasses are all taken care of at the University Hospital.

D. Cases of serious illness, needing the skill of a specialist, are cared for at the University Hospital. All of this service is without cost to the School for the Blind, and is very valuable.

Twice during each year an ophthalmologist of the State University Hospital, accompanied by two or three internes, makes a visit to the school. At the time of these visits all of the students of the school assemble for eye examinations. From the findings of these examinations the ophthalmologist makes recommendations as follows:

a. Concerning those needing daily or frequent medical or other treatment.

b. Concerning those who might be benefited by surgical means.

c. Concerning those whose vision might be improved by the fitting of glasses.

If the recommendations of the ophthalmologist involves surgery, they are referred to the parents. If the parents give their consent, the ones concerned are sent to the University Hospital for such surgical work.



## ORGANIZATIONS

Besides the regular curricular subjects, there are four main extra-curricular activities which function through the school year; Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Golden Rule Circle and Vocational Guidance Club.

The Boys Scouts meet at least once each week with their Scoutmaster. Whenever possible an outdoor activity is planned for these meetings. Usually the activity is in the form of a nature study hike and an overnight camping trip or some kind of outdoor game.

There are two Girl Scout groups with a sponsor for each. The groups are divided according to the rank which each girl has attained. The sponsors meet with their respective groups once each week.

The Golden Rule Circle, supervised by a teacher, but planned by the high school students, meets each Sunday afternoon. Each alternate Sunday the meeting is held in the school Chapel. At these meetings some worthwhile topic vital to the development of wholesome bodies and minds is discussed. On the other Sundays the high school students meet in the Senior Girls' lounge for a social get-together.

There are two Vocational Guidance Clubs, each directed by a teacher. The first includes the seventh and eighth grades and the second comprises the senior class members. The main purpose of these organizations is to do as much as possible toward preparing the student to select some vocation for which he is best suited after graduation.

When not engaged in some activity, the students spend their after-school hours in their dormitories. Either a matron or supervisor has charge of the eight dormitories. Dormitory life is planned as nearly as possible to coincide with the home life of the average child.

Chapel for students, teachers, matrons and supervisors is held Monday, Wednesday and Friday. At these Chapel meetings teachers, ministers of Vinton churches and students conduct services that offer special religious training. Every Sunday morning Sunday School is held in the dormitories. Afterwards the students join the church lines which are formed for attendance at the local churches. A teacher or supervisor is in charge of each line. A student may choose whichever church he wishes to attend.



Dental Report for 1946-1947

Number of students examined	157
Number of students needing treatment	89
Number of cases completed	50
Number of cases not completed	39
Of these 3 left school	
3 refused treatment	
20 required only cleaning	
Number of fillings	216
Number of extractions	17
Number of other operations	9

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Dental Report for 1947-1948

Number of students examined	146
Number of students refusing examination	1
Number of students needing treatment	90
Number of cases completed	74
Number of cases not completed	16
Of these 3 refused treatment	
1 unmanageable	
12 required only cleaning	
Number of fillings	107
Number of extractions	10
Number of other operations	76

(signed) E. H. Dowden, D.D.S.



Hospital Report for 1946-1947

Hospital cases	275
Hospital days	1125
Daily average hospital cases	5 plus
Average daily inspections and treatments	18
Minor injuries and infections	120
Broken bones	3
Malta fever tests (all students and employees)	285
Wassermann tests	113
Dick tests 17 positives immunized	85
Schick tests 8 positives immunized	85
Anti Luetic treatments	72
Small pox vaccinations	85
Cases to Iowa City:	
Eye Clinic -- Refractions or Acuity tests	36
Artificial eye fittings	3
Artificial eye fittings at school	6
Surgical clinic (Major surgery)	2
(Minor surgery)	1
Head specialties & T & A	2
Orthopedic department (same child)	2
Psychopathic department	1
Iowa State Department of Health took miniature chest X-rays of all students and employees in May.	

L. W. Koontz, M.D.

Frankie M. Coleman, R.N.



Hospital Report for 1947-1948

Hospital cases	233
Hospital days	726
Daily average hospital cases	3.25
Physical examinations	150
Urinalysis	160
Hemoglobins	153
Small pox vaccinations	20
Influenza vaccine	190
Wasserman tests 4 positives	40
Dick tests 5 positives immunized	24
Schick tests 2 positives immunized	24
Anti Luetic treatments	80
Contagion (Measles)	4 cases
Cases to Iowa City:	
Eye Clinic --- Refractions and treatments	31
Surgery	2
Pediatrics	8
Otology	2
Orthopedics (same child)	2
Psychopathic	1
Dr. Leinfelder made two visits to the school during the year.	

L. W. Koontz, M.D.

Frankie M. Coleman, R.N.



RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

For the Year Ending June 30, 1947

RECEIPTS AND BALANCES

General Support Fund

Balance in Support Fund, July 1, 1946 .....	\$ 27,552.45
Appropriation for Salaries, Support and Maintenance .....	145,000.00
Appropriation for Salary Increases .....	3,500.00
Appropriation for Repairs, Replacements and Alterations .....	5,000.00
Balance in Repairs, Replacements and Alterations .....	815.61
Refunds -- Clothing and Transportation expense of pupils supported by Counties .....	309.13
From the Commission for the Blind, Summer School Board, Room and Laundry for students & instructors	1,593.34
Cash Receipts for the year .....	6,645.87
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	\$190,616.40

DISBURSEMENTS AND BALANCES

General Support Fund

Administrative .....	\$ 9,129.73
Educational .....	50,021.04
Physical Plant Operation .....	54,850.17
Institutional Maintenance .....	57,989.93
	\$ 12,809.92
Repairs, Replacements & Alterations .....	5,799.48
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	\$177,790.35
	\$ 12,826.05
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	\$190,616.40



## IOWA SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

Vinton, Iowa

Report of the Treasurer  
 Regarding Receipts and Disbursements  
 of All Funds  
 from  
 July 1, 1946 to June 30, 1947

FUNDS	Balances July 1, 1946	RECEIPTS	DISBURSE- MENTS	Balances June 30, 1947
Appropriation		\$145,000.00		
Collections and Refunds		8,748.34		
Salaries, Support and Maintenance	\$27,552.45		\$171,990.87	\$12,809.92
Appropriation for Salary Increases		3,500.00		
Appropriation for Repairs, Replacements and Alterations	815.61	5,000.00	5,799.48	16.13
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	\$28,368.06	\$162,248.34	\$177,790.35	\$12,826.05

(signed) Ethel D. Connelly  
 Treasurer



RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS

For the Year Ending June 30, 1948

RECEIPTS AND BALANCES

General Support Fund

Balance in Support Fund, July 1, 1947 .....	\$ 12,809.92
Appropriation for Salaries, Support and Maintenance .....	180,000.00
Emergency Appropriation .....	17,000.00
Repairs, Replacements and Alterations Appropriation .....	12,500.00
Emergency Appropriation .....	3,000.00
Returned from Support Fund to R. R. & A. ....	116.24
Balance in Replacements and Alterations Fund .....	16.13
Cash Receipts for the year .....	8,554.68
Refunds -- Clothing and Transportation expense of pupils supported by Counties .....	494.58
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	\$234,491.55

DISBURSEMENTS AND BALANCES

General Support Fund

Administrative .....	\$ 10,741.44
Educational .....	56,704.19
Physical Plant Operation .....	71,955.25
Institutional Maintenance .....	65,826.03
	\$ 13,632.27
Repairs, Replacements and Alterations ...	9,306.13
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	\$214,533.04
	\$ 19,958.51
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	\$234,491.55



## IOWA SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND

Vinton, Iowa

Report of the Treasurer  
 Regarding Receipts and Disbursements  
 of All Funds  
 from  
 July 1, 1947 to June 30, 1948

FUNDS	Balances July 1, 1946	RECEIPTS	DISBURSE- MENTS	Balances June 30, 1947
Appropriation	\$180,000.00			
Emergency Appropriation	17,000.00			
Collections and Refunds		9,049.26		
Salaries, Support and Maintenance	\$12,809.92		\$205,226.91	\$13,632.27
Appropriation for Repairs, Replacements and Alterations	16.13	12,500.00	9,306.13	6,326.24
Emergency Appropriation R. R. & A.		3,000.00		
Refund from Salaries Support and Maintenance		116.24		
	\$12,826.05	\$221,665.50	\$214,533.04	\$19,958.51

(signed) Ethel D. Connelly  
 Treasurer

